PUFF upon PUFF,

The PUFFER PUFF'D,

OR

O—r H * * LY

And a certain

G---l near the T---r,

AN

Overmatch for the DEVIL;

A

VISION.

In an EPISTLE to a FRIEMD,

BY

PHANASIUS TERATOAEUS

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Puff upon Puff, &c.

SIR,

I Shall make no Apology for troubling you with the following whimſical Piece. I know you are amuſed generally with any Thing that carries with it Air of Singularity, and as this is, both for its matter and manner, ſuch as I judged would be entertaing to a Man that is pleaſed with Curioſities of this Kind, I have ventured to ſet down, as minutely as I can recollect, and tranſmit to you, the following Viſion, or Dream, if you pleaſe; for I was under the Dominion of Sleep, when I was preſented with the extraordinary Scene, of which I am going, as well as I can to make a Deſcription. But I am firſt to acquaint you, that I had ſome little Time before been peruſing, in a publick Paper, one of thoſe Advertiſements, ſo generally admired, and ſo frequently publiſhed by the renowned O—R H—LY. And, after having for ſome time been revolving in my mind divers uncommon Circumſtances relating to that great Man, and thinking with ſome Attention upon the Merits of his ſeveral Performances, and eſpecially the capital Work of his, lately publiſhed under the juſt and proper Title of the Coup de Grace, I inſenſibly fell into a profound Sleep: And, as the imagination is generally buſy about the laſt waking Object that preſents itſelf, eſpecially if it ſtrike forcibly upon the Mind, as to me it happened, I had the dream you are now going to be entertained with.

I thought that as I was accidently paſſing by the corner

ner of Lincolns-Inn-Fields near Clare-Market, i obſerv, ed a vaſt Concourſe of People, crowding with uncommon Earneſtneſs, about the Door of an odd kind of Temple ſuch as i conceived might have been erected in earlier and more idolatrous Times, to the honour and worſhip of the great Baal. Their whole Attention was directed towards ſomething that was going to be tranſacted within that Place of Abomination, and they ſeemed by the Chearfulneſs and Feſtivity that was viſible in their countenances, to be high and greedy Expectation, of ſome very amuſing Event. I, curious to enquire into Cauſes, mixed myſelf with the Herd, and preſently fell into diſcourſe with ſome of thoſe that ſtood about me, i ſoon learnt the Occaſion and Meaning of ſo extraordinary an Aſſembly; which was the Demiſe of that great and excellent genius O—r H—ly. He had never recovered it ſeems the Fright which the dreadful News of a future State had lately put him into, and died not long after in the higheſt Agonies of Deſpair. i was informed further that a high Court of Juſtice had been erected, to ſit and determine upon the Caſe and Eerits of the ſaid O—r; and the Expectation of the Sentance which was to be pronounced upon the Iſſue, was the Cauſe of that remarkable attention and ſtrong impatience i had obſerved in the By ſtanders, that as ſoon as the Temple could ee cleared of its pollutions. the Court would begin to ſi in Form, and examine Witneſſes, that they had for that Purpoſe ordered an exact and diligent Sealch to be made, and their Beadle or head-tip-ſtaff to drive forth of the Temple and execute Vengeance upon an infamous Crew of Miſcreants, which the O—r always kept about his Perſon, when living, as his guard, his Companions, and the Puffers of his Praiſe.

I had ſcarce received this information, when turning

ning ſuddenly about, upon hearing a moſt hideous and horrid Din, i directed my Eye towards the interior Temple, and was greatly aſtoniſhed at the ſight of a flaming Sword, brandiſhed in the Air, and caſting forth dreadful Flaſhes, as ſudden and baleful as thoſe of ligh, ning, inſtantly, upon the dividing of the crowd to make Room for what ſhould come forth, i perceived a Troop of miſerables, pale and trembling, and endeavouring to eſcape the Purſuit of that terrible Miniſter of Vengeance who held the flaming Sword, and was directing his aim and dealing his Blows amongſt them, with all the marks of Severity and indignation. There was Treaſon and Rebellion, Atheiſm and Blaſphemy, infidelity and ſignorance, Falſe-teſtimony, Deceit, Perjury, and a thouand other horrid ſhapes, whoſe Names it would be tedious to enumerate.

I was under ſome Aſtoniſhment, i remember, that i did not ſee Hypocriſy amongſt the reſt; but i ſoon recovered from my ſurpriſe, when examining narrowly thoſe that paſt, i diſcovered him with a demure Sneak, and holy Leer, endeavouring to ſculk and ſlip away under the ſanctified appearance of the Reverend Mr. G-ge Wh-d.

Onethi ng i could not obſerve without Amazement, which was, that tho' the ſtrokes given to ſome of the Wretches, as felony, Perjury, and ſome other of low degree, were generally aimed with the utmoſt Propriety, and ſuch Exactneſs as always to become mortal: yet, that when the ſword was directed at Treaſon, and a few more of a deeper dye, it either was retarded in its deſcent and fell not with its full force; [not cutting ſheer but juſt riſing ſkin, or lightly drawing Blood] or elſe glanced ſuddenly aſide upon ſome object near hand with

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not any hurt to the Criminal it ought to have laid flat.

What became of them after their Expulsion and the Execution done upon them i could not learn. only Treason (after having paid his compliments to one, whom he distinguished from the rest of the crowd as his most intimate Acquaintance, and whom by his garb, the prominence of his cheek-bones, and his sandy complexion, i easily knew to be the genius of S—d] slipt into a coach, and immediately repaired, tho' now somewhat more plausible shape, to receive at the T—r the congratulations, upon his narrow escape, of his good friend the E—l of C——ie, the late L——d Pr——t of Ed——gh his high Al—— and his Cousin-german S——n L——d F——r of L——t.

The court had by this time gone thro' the Examination of a sufficient number of Witnesses, anp were just proceeding to sentence, when a dusky Messenger from the Regions below was introduced, and informed the court, that in Bar of awarding sentance, his infernal Majest, desired to be heard by his counsel. This request was no sooner made, than complied with; [for the whole court, Judges, Jury, and Advocates on both sides, paid alway a great deference and Veneration to that Monarch] and his Majesty's Attorney-general immediately entered upon his Plea. "He seemed to be very certain of the sentance that was to be pronounced, of the condemnations of the Criminal, and his Transmission to the Place of eternal Punishment in the shades; but said his instructions were to inform the court that if any sort of regard for his Diabolical Highness, or auy consideration for the Well-being of his Subjects, or the security of his kingdom, they would endeavour to find out some other Method of Punishment, and Place of Exile, for the infamous Caitiff upon whose Trial they had been sitting'

and

and whoſe ſentence remained now to be pronounced.

That ſince the arrival of the doctors, oates and ſach-everell, with ſome others condemned and ſentenced to Hell by there reſpective Judges, Plots and Machinations Parties and Factions, had kept his Maieſty in Perpetual alarms; endangered the conſtitution of his kingdom and well nigh overturned the government adding that he knew ſo well the genius of the Criminal under preſent conſideration, that he had determined, in this manner to petition the court, in order to prevent the total ſubverſion of his Empire:

That he was ſo Perfectly accuanted with his turbulent diſpoſition and reſtleſs Spirit, that ſhould the intended Sentance take Place; they muſt ſoon expect to hear of an addition to, Hell's wild Uproar, and of confuſion on worſe confounde.

The Plea was without Heſitetion admited; and the Court hap now begun to enter upon a freſh Conſultation how to diſpoſe of the Criminal; when they were informed by the Cryer, that a Depntation from his Holineſs Pope Alexander the ſixth, and ſome others of his triple Crown'p Brethren, the Governors and Directors of the Affairs of Purgatory, headed by ſhe their Eminences the Cardinals Baronions and Bellarmine, waited without, and begged to be admitted.

Their Requeſt was much the ſame with the former; and they urged with great Forſe the Inefficacy of the Fires of Purgatory to do away Sins, ſo numerous, ſo foul, and of ſo deep a Dye. Beſides that the peſtilential and contagious Blaſts mighs injure thoſe poor Spirits that had been already annealed, and by baleful Communication again befooul what had been in ſo much Torture bee rendered white, and was emerging pure from the Furnace.

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This too was found reaſonable by the Court, and the Ambaſſadors diſmiſſed to their Satisfaction. The Judges who had been thus twrice precluded, were now in great Streights, and under a terrible Dilemma what to do, or how to direct the condign Puniſhment of ſo inveterate a Malefactor. Several Opinions were canvaſſed, diver- ſentences propoſed, but without their being able to fix upon any Thing.

Some were for ſending him to the other Side of the Globe, that he might linger out a tedious Baniſhment amongſt the Antipodes: but one in the Court of diſtinguiſhed Learning and Virtue, deſired as a particular Favour, that he might be permitted to beg off that People, upon account of a probable Opinion that they formerly had been aequainted with Johannes Picus of Mirandula.

Others were for tranſporting him to one of our American Colonies, under the government and Direction of G—l j—s O——pe. But the Court at laſt overruled that and all other Propoſals that had been made, and to put an End to the Debate, ordered that he ſhould be immediately put under the Cuſtody of the D-- L--t of the T- -; and G l W——n was immediately ſent for to come and take Charge of the Criminal.

As ſoon as he appared, the Court ſignifiſed to him the Occaſion of their Meſſage to him: they required him, upon their Authority, to take particular Care to execute well, and to the full intent and Purpoſe of the inſtructions he ſhould receive, the Office he was now directed to take upon him; that he ſhould be remarkably diligent in diveſting himſelf of every idle and unprofitable Virtue, as generoſity, compliacency, good-Manners, and the like; but above all to ſteel his Heart againſt all Approaches of Remorſe, and every Motive

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to compaſſion; that could they diſcover in him the remains of but a ſingle Virtue, they could by no means conſent to put into his Hands, a Priſoner, who deſerveds not the leaſt Abatement or Mitigation, of the ſevereſt Sentence.

TheG---l returned them his Compliments of Thank for the Honour they did him, and the Confidence they ſeemed to repoſe in him; he promiſed for himſelf with all Solemnity not to forfeit the good Opinion they might have conceived; and deſired that his Character and Reputation, or, whrt he prize far beyond them hoath, his gold, might be put to anſwer, for his Fidelity. He ſaid he had long ago qualiſied himſelf in as bigh a Degree as they could poſſibly expect from him and that were they to cauſe the moſt accurate Enquiry to be made into Countries the moſt ſavage of the known World, and ramble from the Capa of Good Hope to the Coaſt of Patagonia, they would probably not be able at laſt tofind one better qualified to ſereve all the Purpoſes of the Court

He concluded with deſiriug the ¿udges; that an Addition might be made to the Allowance uſually exhibited to the Priſoners under the care, that he might not be out of Pocket by Pniſon Room and Bread and Water

The court acquieſced in this ſo very reaſonable Requeſt, and ordered the wretched O--r inſtantly to be delivered up, and conveyed to the Place of Puniſhment from which no Ceſſation was to be obtained, no mercy to be expected

Thus at laſt the Court broke up; and the Multitude of Spectators teified ther Satisfaction by the loudeſt Applauſes, which echoing through the Court, and being redoubled from with, quickly put an End to my Sleep and Amuſement Together. FINIS.